

SAFE STORAGE

Proper Storage Practices for Handguns
With an Emphasis on Storage Practices
That Eliminate the Possibility of
Accidental Injury to a Child

Referenced as: Safe Storage

Course Outline: Module 4

Allotted Instruction Time: 45 minutes to 1 hour

OBJECTIVES

- Identify the importance of safe storage of a handgun
- Identify types of storage options available
- Know and understand the penalties for making a firearm accessible to a child
- Know and understand the responsibilities and consequences when handguns are made available to anyone other than those who should have access

WHAT IS SAFE STORAGE?

- Locking the handgun in a
 - gun safe
 - gun cabinet
- Keeping the handgun separate from the ammunition
- Restricting access
- Goes further, it is a 24/7 responsibility

DEFINING SAFE STORAGE

- goes beyond keeping the handgun locked in your house
- is more than just a storage device
- applies anytime, anywhere
- is not hiding your handgun
- is a learned behavior
- is a constant responsibility
- can be the difference between life and death

ACCESSIBILITY vs. SAFEKEEPING

- Considerations
 - Location
 - Workplace
 - Public places
 - Home
 - Vehicle
 - Who has access to your home, car, or office

ACCESSIBILITY vs. SAFEKEEPING

- Who has access to your home, car, or office
 - Immediate family
 - Extended family
 - Friends of family
 - Contractors
 - Child care providers
 - Unintended persons

WORKPLACE

- Physical
 - Desk, office, locking drawer, gun safe, gun lock
 - Job sites
 - Company vehicle
- Type of employment
 - Work attire
 - Job duties
- Who do you work with / has access to you or your belongings
 - Co-workers
 - General public
 - Children

PUBLIC PLACES

- Physical
 - Facility storage options
 - Vehicle / Parking
- Type of location
 - Recreational – may have lockers
 - Restaurant – unattended purses/bags
 - Hotel – safes, valets, luggage services
- Who has access to you or your belongings
 - Friends / family
 - General public
 - Children

HOME

- Physical
 - Location
 - Single family dwelling
 - Multi-family dwelling
 - Storage Options
 - Locking drawer, gun safe, gun locks
- Who has access to your home
 - Friends / family
 - Children and/or their friends
 - Maintenance workers
 - Uninvited persons

VEHICLE

- Physical
 - Car / Truck / RV / Motorcycle
 - Locking drawer, box, safe
 - Trunk, engine compartment, hidden compartment
 - Parking location
- Who has access to your vehicle
 - Friends / family
 - Children
 - Repair person
- Travel

SECURING HANDGUNS

- Handguns should be secured from:
 - Children
 - Visitors
 - Friends
 - Relatives
 - Maintenance workers
 - Persons we expect, and those we don't
 - In short, "EVERYONE, but you!"

SAFES AND LOCKS

Accessible
to
you

Secured
from
others

The Texas Department of Public Safety does not endorse
any type or manufacturer of gun safes or locks.

TYPES OF GUN SAFES AND LOCKS

- Most guns sold now are sold with this type of lock



TYPES OF GUN SAFES AND LOCKS



Uses a code to unlock the safe

Code(s) can be changed



Has a physical key;
battery operated

TYPES OF GUN SAFES AND LOCKS

Biometric

Uses you 'fingerprints' to unlock the safe

Can be coded for multiple persons

Has a physical key also
battery operated



TYPES OF GUN SAFES AND LOCKS

Trigger locks



Keys

Codes



TYPES OF GUN SAFES AND LOCKS

Barrel Locks



Typically locked
with a key

TYPES OF GUN SAFES AND LOCKS



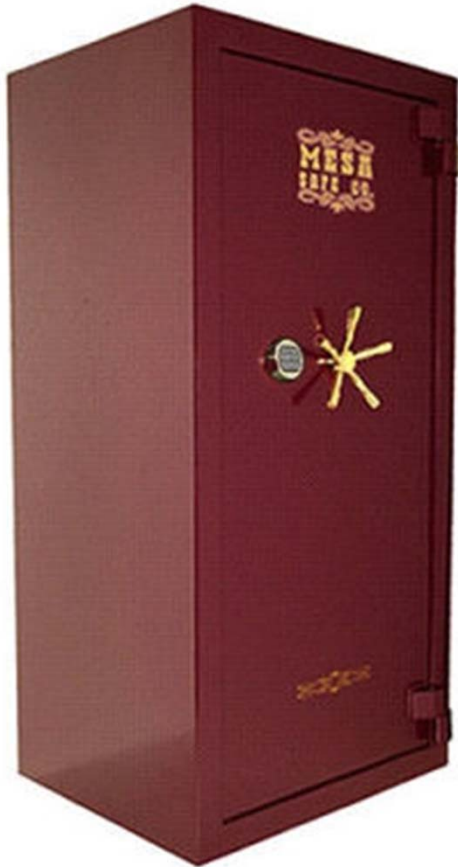
Custom

Key lock

Made specific for
different type of
handguns

TYPES OF GUN SAFES AND LOCKS

Safes



Can be bolted secure

Keys, codes,
combinations,
biometric...

TYPES OF GUN SAFES AND LOCKS









This can be
mounted most
anywhere you
have the space

It can also be
detached from
mounting
bracket

PENAL CODE § 46.13(a) - MAKING A FIREARM ACCESSIBLE TO A CHILD

- (1) "Child" means a person younger than 17 years of age.
- (2) "Readily dischargeable firearm" means a firearm that is loaded with ammunition, whether or not a round is in the chamber.
- (3) "Secure" means to take steps that a reasonable person would take to prevent the access to a readily dischargeable firearm by a child, including but not limited to placing a firearm in a locked container or temporarily rendering the firearm inoperable by a trigger lock or other means.

PENAL CODE §46.13(b) MAKING A FIREARM ACCESSIBLE TO A CHILD

- (b) A person commits an offense if a child gains access to a readily dischargeable firearm and the person with criminal negligence:
- (1) failed to secure the firearm; or
 - (2) left the firearm in a place to which the person knew or should have known the child would gain access

PENAL CODE §46.13(c) MAKING A FIREARM ACCESSIBLE TO A CHILD.

- (c) It is an affirmative defense to prosecution under this section that the child's access to the firearm:
- (1) was supervised by a person older than 18 years of age and was for hunting, sporting, or other lawful purposes;
 - (2) consisted of lawful defense by the child of people or property;
 - (3) was gained by entering property in violation of this code; or
 - (4) occurred during a time when the actor was engaged in an agricultural enterprise

PENAL CODE §46.13(d)(e)
MAKING A FIREARM ACCESSIBLE
TO A CHILD

- (d) Except as provided by Subsection (e),
an offense under this section is a Class C
misdemeanor.
- (e) An offense under this section is a Class A
misdemeanor if the child discharges the firearm and
causes death or serious bodily injury to himself or
another person.

PENAL CODE §46.13(f) MAKING A FIREARM ACCESSIBLE TO A CHILD

- (f) A peace officer or other person may not arrest the actor before the seventh day after the date on which the offense is committed if:
- (1) the actor is a member of the family, as defined by Section 71.003, Family Code, of the child who discharged the firearm; and
 - (2) the child in discharging the firearm caused the death of or serious injury to the child.